

April 8, 1988

LB 647

SPEAKER BARRETT: Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Nelson, would you care to close?

SENATOR NELSON: Yes, I'll make this again very brief, and I will give Senator Campbell and Senator Johannis a minute of my time. Might I tell the body, this is not a mandated program necessarily to the schools. It's only if they offer it. It is an additional incentive because these vocational programs do cost money and it exposes the students to let them know that there is something else in life besides a very menial job. And this is not breaking new ground. We do direct programs for the gifted. We direct programs in school for other incentives, so this is not unusual. I don't feel that we are dictating to the local school boards and, again, as I say, right back to the budget. They cut corners and vocational education is probably one of the first. With that, I'll give Senator Campbell a minute and then Senator Johannis wants a minute.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Campbell.

SENATOR CAMPBELL: Mr. President, colleagues, I have learned one thing down here this year. You have to be really quick pressing your button or you never get to talk, and that will be something I will remember. I will be brief. I have voted against most of the previous overrides, however, I do feel this one is very important to our small communities. I have seen the vocational program work hand in hand with economic development in our area and without it, it would be a waste. I really urge you to consider this very carefully and urge you in this instance to vote for the override. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Johannis.

SENATOR JOHANNIS: With all due respect to the senators who indicated otherwise, this does not mandate a local school board to provide vocational education. What it does is it reimburses those school districts that choose to do so. Remember what we tell our school districts to do. We tell them that they should educate the kids. I don't think that job training falls into